GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3333
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2003
CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS ALONG KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK
MONI KUMAR SUBBA

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether responding to the Assam Government`s plea, the Union Government have sanctioned a feasibility study for construction of tunnels both underground and over-ground along Kaziranga National Park, as a safety measure to protect the endangered Rhinos;

(b) if so, the details and estimated cost of the project as well as feasibility study; and

(c) the latest population of rhinos in the Kaziranga National Park and the plan for promotion of rhinos` population?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a) & (b) No, Sir. However, the Central Government has agreed to the plea of Assam Government regarding a feasibility study for the construction of tunnel / flyover at points that are used by wild animals as corridors.

(c) As informed by the State Government, there are approximately 1550 Rhinos in Kaziranga National Park.Technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Government for the management of rhino population in Kaziranga.